

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 05337 062249Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 PC-05 OMB-01 DOE-15
SOE-02 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02
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R 061127Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 718

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 5337

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB IN
SUBJECT: MAHARASHTRA FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES
GOM'S DECISION TO IMPLEMENT MAHARASHTRA EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE
BILL

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO CALCUTTA MADRAS FROM
BOMBAY APR 05 IS REPEATED

QUOTE
UNCLA BOMBAY 0841

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, IN
SUBJ: MAHARASHTRA FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES GOM'S DECISION
TO IMPLEMENT MAHARASHTRA EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE BILL

REF: 77 BOMBAY 1902

1. GOM FINANCE MINISTER, MR. Y.J. MOHITE ANNOUNCED IN THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MARCH 31 THAT THE STATE GOVERNMENT HAS
DECIDED TO IMPLEMENT THE MAHARASHTRA EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE
BILL (MEGB) BY ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER IF THE
REQUIRED PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO IT IS DENIED. MOHITE FURTHER
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STATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD IMPLEMENT ALL THE PROVISIONS
OF THE BILL (SEE REFTEL), INCLUDING UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES
TO ALL ABLE-BODIED PEOPLE WHO DEMANDED WORK UNDER THE
SCHEME BUT ARE NOT GIVEN EMPLOYMENT WITHIN 15 DAYS.

2. COMMENT: MAHARASHTRA HAS HAD A LOW KEY GUARANTEED RURAL
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM SINCE 1972. THE MEGB WAS APPROVED IN

AUGUST 1977, BUT IS STILL AWAITING THE SIGNATURE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF INDIA.

3. A GOOD GOM SOURCE WAS UNABLE TO INDICATE WHEN THE PROPOSED
EXECUTIVE ORDER WILL BE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THAT
IT IS QUITE UNLIKELY THAT MAHARASHTRA WOULD ASK FOR THE
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE
BILL. SAME SOURCE ALSO INDICATED THAT GOI IS OPPOSED TO
PAYMENT OF ANY DOLE TO THE UNEMPLOYED.

4. MAHARASHTRA'S INTERIM BUDGET FOR INDIAN FISCAL YEAR
1978-79 (APRIL 1 - MARCH 31) PROVIDES RS.600 MILLION FOR
THE EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME, WHICH SHOULD PROVIDE FOR
165 MILLION MANDAYS OF GUARANTEED EMPLOYMENT IN THE RURAL
SECTOR
COURTNEY

UNQUOTE
GOHEEN

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